

## Notes on *Arthropoda* of the Soutpansberg Mountains (South Africa)

Muhabbet Kemal Ahmet Ömer Koçak

This paper deals with the field studies in the northern parts of South Africa (Limpopo Province), carried out by the authors in 2003 and 2004. The studying areas are Lajuma, Medike, Schoemansdal, and Entabeni forest in the Soutpansberg Mountains, situated 400km northeast of Pretoria with the altitudes up to 2000m, near to the Zimbabwe border (**Fig.1**). The Soutpansberg area is subtropical. It is characterized by the arid bushveld- savana biome, which is restricted to the dry, hot and rocky slopes. This mountain range has one of the most diverse habitats in the country. Totally 340 indigenous tree species in this region, an abundance of animal life, and the world's highest concentration of leopard are reported. Ancient, gigantic Baobabs (**Fig.2**) are distributed sporadically in the mountains, bushveld, indigenous forests and cycads. The area is also rich in culture and history with the San rock art at Medike in the Sand River Gorge as well as at Lajuma. The main aim of these four expeditions was the determining the *Lepidoptera* fauna of the Soutpansberg Mountains (**Fig.3**). This project is still continuing, by evaluating rich museum materials in the Cesa collection (**Figs. 4-5**).<sup>1</sup>

Below, selected 24 arthropod species (except *Lepidoptera*) are reported faunistically together with their illustrations in nature, taken by the authors. These are as follows; *Odonata* (2 species): *Platycnemididae*, *Allocnemis leucosticta* from Schoemansdal (**Fig. 6**); *Libellulidae*, *Trithemis kirbyi* from Medike (**Fig.7**). *Orthoptera* (6 species): *Bradypodidae*, *Acanthoplus* sp.<sup>2</sup> (**Fig.8**) & *Acanthoplus* aff. *armiventris* from Medike (**Fig.9**); *Tettigoniidae*, *Cymatomera denticollis* from Medike in alert position (**Figs.10-13**); *Pamphagidae*, *Lamarckiana* sp. from Medike, a nymph (**Fig.14**); *Pyrgomorphidae*, *Phymateus* aff. *leprosus* from Lajuma, a nymph (**Fig. 15**); *Pyrgomorphidae*, *Phymateus viridipes* from Medike, a nymph (**Fig.16**); *Pyrgomorphidae*, *Taphronota* sp. from Entabeni forest (**Figs. 17-18**). *Isoptera* (1 undetermined species): small nests of Termites from Medike (**Figs.19-20**). *Hemiptera* (1 species): *Scutelleridae*, *Calidea dregii* from Medike (**Fig.21**); *Diptera* (2 species): *Bombyliidae*, *Bombomyia discoidea* from Medike (**Fig.22**); *Platystomatidae*, *Bromophila caffra* from Medike (**Fig.23**); *Hymenoptera* (2 species): *Braconidae*, *Archibracon servillei* from Medike (**Fig.24**); *Vespidae*, *Polistes fastidiosus* from Medike (**Fig.25**); *Coleoptera* (6 species): *Buprestidae*, *Agelia petelii* from Medike (**Fig.26**); *Lycidae*, *Lycus* aff. *trabeatus* in copula from Medike (**Figs. 27-28**); *Meloidae*, *Mylabris oculata* from Medike (**Fig.29**); *Coccinellidae*, *Cheilomenes lunata* from Medike (**Fig.30**); *Cerambycidae*, *Tragiscoschema* aff. *bertolonii* from Medike (**Fig.31**); *Tenebrionidae*, *Anomalipus elephas* from Medike (**Fig.32**). *Acarina* (1 species): *Trombidiidae*, *Dinothrombium tinctorum* from Medike (**Fig.33**). *Araneae* (1 species): *Nephilidae*, *Nephila senegalensis* from Medike (**Fig.34**).

<sup>1</sup> [http://www.metafro.be/Members/Cesa/Cesapublafr16.pdf/base\\_view](http://www.metafro.be/Members/Cesa/Cesapublafr16.pdf/base_view)

<sup>2</sup> See the short video film: <http://www.archive.org/details/AcanthoplusbradyporidaeFromSouthAfrica>





**Fig. 1** – Soutpansberg Mountains from Medike 800-1600m, 3 April, 2004 photo M. Kemal (Cesa)



**Fig. 2** - The author during investigation the bark of a young Baobab tree (*Adansonia digitata*) at Medike 900m, 3 April 2004 photo A. Koçak (Cesa)





**Fig. 3-** A large video records and photography archive were established by the author during the South African expeditions in 2003 and 2004 (Cesa)



**Fig. 4 –** For the photography of the moths the light traps were used in the Soutpansberg Mountains (Cesa)





**Fig. 5** – For the exact determination especially of the micro moths preparation in the field and transport to the related laboratory is inevitable. For this purpose, the necessary permissions were obtained from the authorities.



**Fig. 6-** *Platycnemididae, Allocnemis leucosticta* from Schoemansdal 1000m, 23 January 2003 photo M. Kemal (Cesa)





**Fig. 7-** Libellulidae, *Trithemis kirbyi* from Medike 820m, 27 November 2003, photo A.Koçak (Cesa)



**Fig. 8-** Bradypodidae, *Acanthoplus* sp. from Medike 820m, 28 3 2004 photo M.Kemal (Cesa)





**Fig. 9-** *Bradypodidae*, *Acanthopplus* aff. *armiventris* from Medike 820m, 28 3 2004 photo M.Kemal (Cesa)



**Fig. 10-** *Tettigoniidae*, *Cymatomera denticollis* from Medike 820m, in alert position 24 November 2003 photo M.Kemal (Cesa)





**Fig. 11-** Tettigoniidae, *Cymatomera denticollis* from Medike 820m in alert position 24 November 2003 photo M.Kemal (Cesa)



**Fig. 12-** Tettigoniidae, *Cymatomera denticollis* from Medike 820m in alert position 24 November 2003 photo M.Kemal (Cesa)





**Fig. 13-** Tettigoniidae, *Cymatomera denticollis* from Medike in normal position 24 November 2003 photo M.Kemal (Cesa)



**Fig. 14-** Pamphagidae, *Lamarckiana* sp. from Medike 820m, a nymph with parasitic mites, 30 11 2003 photo A.Koçak (Cesa)





**Fig. 15** - Pyrgomorphidae, *Phymateus* aff. *leprosus*, Lajuma 1400m, a nymph, 22 January 2003, photo A. Koçak (Cesa)



**Fig. 16** - Pyrgomorphidae, *Phymateus* *viridipes* from Medike 820m, a nymph, 7 12 2003 photo M.Kemal (Cesa)





**Figs. 17-18** - Pyrgomorphidae, *Taphronota* sp. from Entabeni forest 1300m ,4 April 2004 photo M.Kemal (Cesa)





**Fig. 19** –*Isoptera*, small nests of Termites from Medike 820m, 25 11 2003 photo M.Kemal (Cesa)



**Fig. 20** –*Isoptera*, small nests of Termites from Medike 820m, 25 11 2003 photo M.Kemal (Cesa)



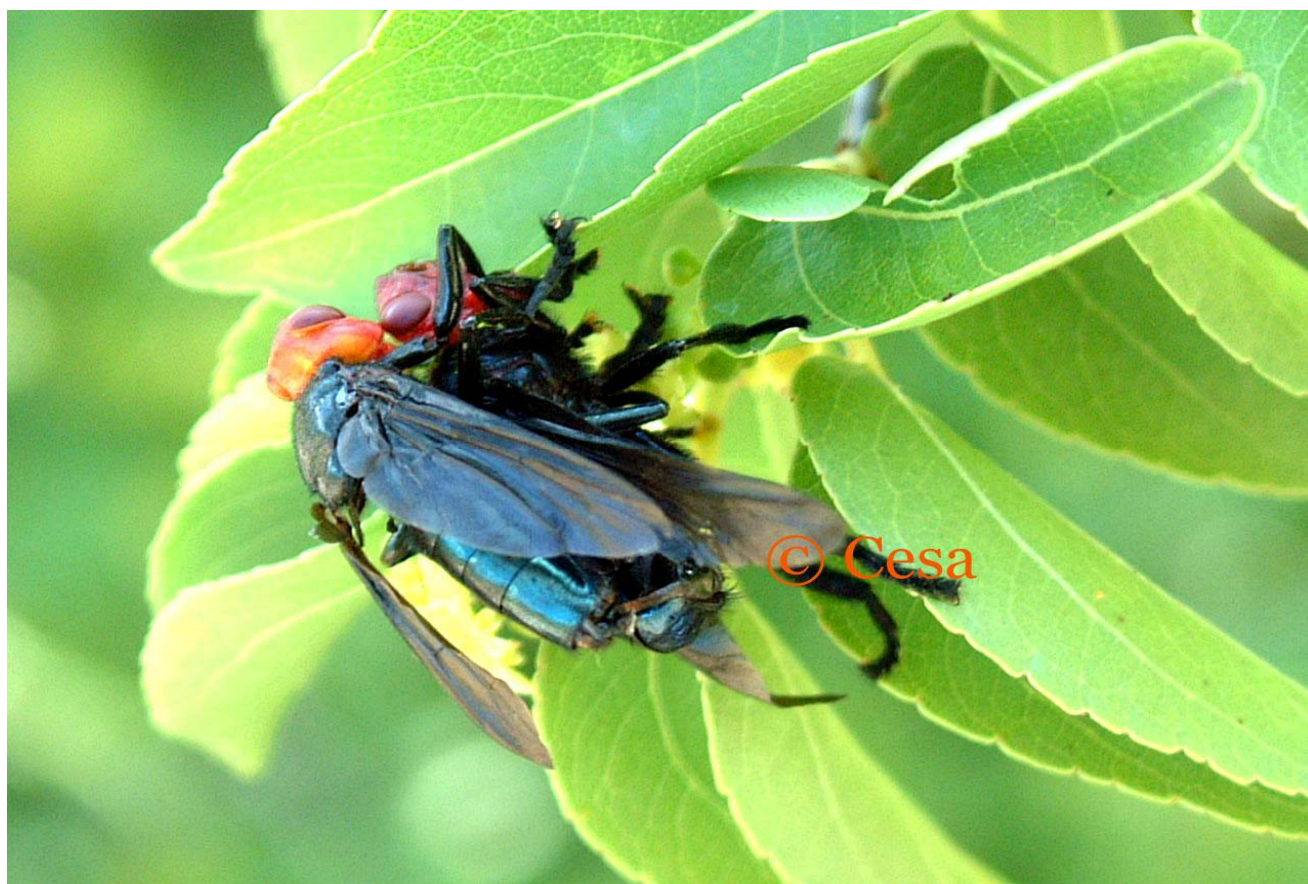


**Fig. 21** – Scutelleridae, *Calidea dregii* from Medike 820m, 17 4 2004 photo A Koçak (Cesa)



**Fig. 22** – Bombyliidae, *Bombomyia discoidea* from Medike 820m, 11 December 2003 photo A. Koçak (Cesa)





**Fig. 23** – *Platystomatidae*, *Bromophila caffra* from Medike 820m, 7 12 2003, photo A Koçak (Cesa)



**Fig. 24** – *Braconidae*, *Archibracon servillei* from Medike 820m, 7 December 2003, M. Kemal (Cesa)





**Fig. 25** – Vespidae, *Polistes fastidiosus* from Medike 820m, 7 12 2003, photo A. Koçak (Cesa)



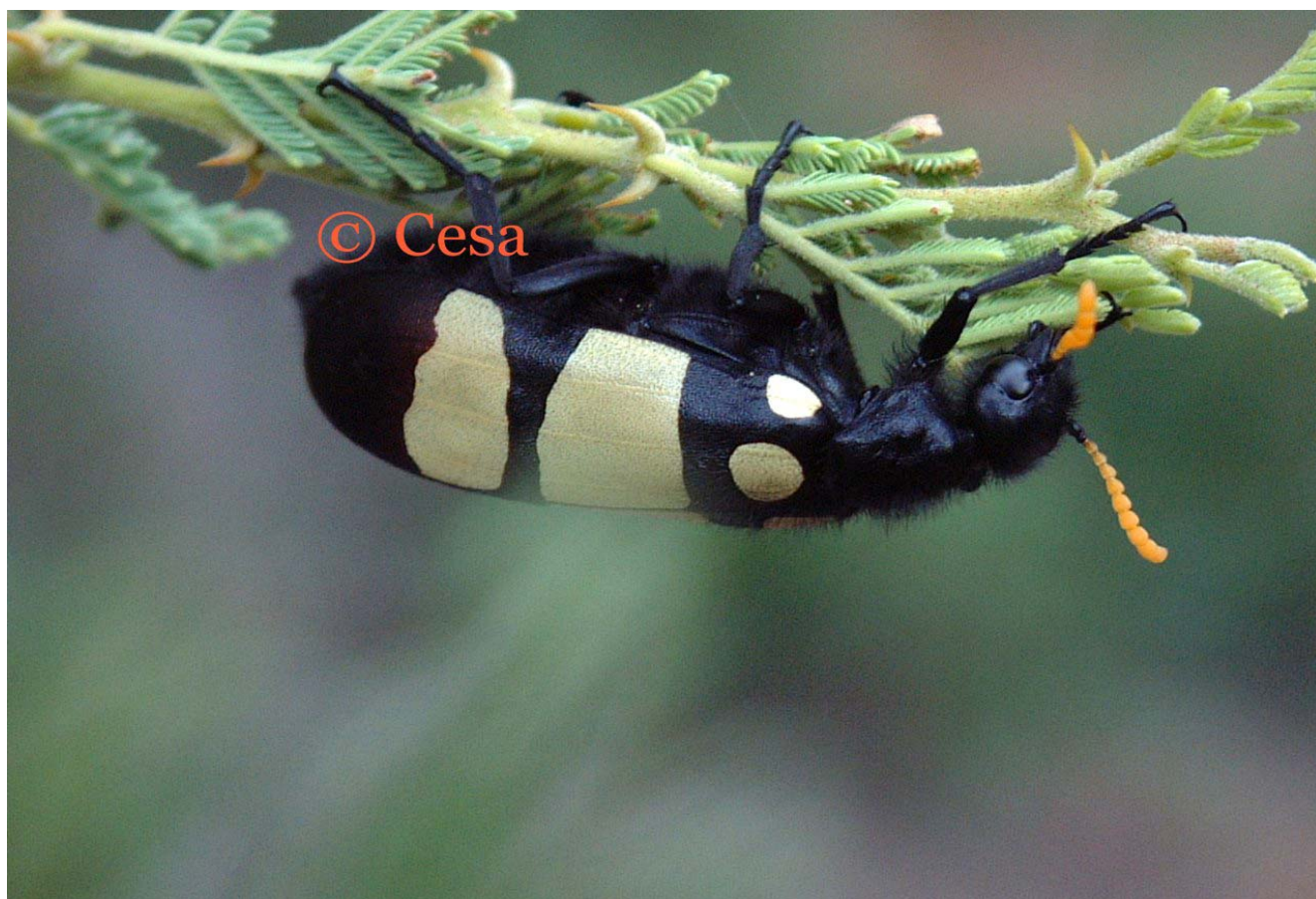
**Fig. 26** – Buprestidae, *Agelia petelii* from Medike 820m, 29 11 2003, photo A. Koçak (Cesa)





**Figs. 27-28** – *Lycidae*, *Lycus* aff. *trabeatus* in copula, Medike 820m, 22 January 2003 photo A Koçak (Cesa)





**Fig. 29** – Meloidae, *Mylabris oculata* from Medike 820m, 29 November 2003, photo M. Kemal (Cesa)



**Fig. 30** – Coccinellidae, *Cheilomenes lunata* with Mordellid sp. from Medike 820m, 7 12 2003, photo A. Koçak (Cesa)





**Fig. 31** – *Cerambycidae*, *Tragiscoschema* aff. *bertolonii* from Medike 820m, 7 April 2004, photo A. Koçak (Cesa)



**Fig. 32** – *Tenebrionidae*, *Anomalipus elephas* from Medike 820m, 29 November 2003, photo M. Kemal (Cesa)





**Fig. 33** – Trombidiidae, *Dinothrombium tinctorum* (Red Velvet Mite) from Medike 25 11 2003, photo A. Koçak (Cesa)



**Fig. 34** – Nephilidae, *Nephila senegalensis* from Medike 820m, 2 April 2004 photo A. Koçak (Cesa)



**Scientific Note:** Occurrence of a gynandromorph butterfly in İstanbul Province (N.W.Turkey).

Gynandromorphism is not a common case among the butterflies in the World. Among the sexually dimorphic species, this peculiar case is more easily recognized. Besides, bilateral symmetrical gynandromorphism is commoner than the mosaic type.

A gynandromorph specimen of *Argynnis paphia* (Linnaeus,1758) (*Argynnidae*) with the male left side was photographed in nature by Mr. Sarıgül on 1st September, 2007 at Aydos Hill, Kartal (İstanbul Prov.) (**Fig.1**).

This scientific note is prepared in name of Mr. Turgut Sarıgül with his kind permission A.Ö.K.



**Fig. 1** – Anadolu Cengaveri (*Argynnis paphia*), bilateral gynandromorph specimen. İstanbul Prov., Kartal, Aydos Hill, 1 September 2007, photo Turgut Sarıgül ©




**Announcement:** An appreciative conversation on the Cesa and its scientific activities

This program was first announced on 13 February 2009 by the RFA (Radio Free Asia). The conversation nearly 9 minutes (in uighur language) can be downloaded from the following address: <http://www.rfa.org/uyghur/audio>. It must be selected in the search box the time and date as “07:00 – 2009/02/13”, then pressed **OK** button (see arrow)

The conversation is between the minutes of 21:57 and 30:40 in the file Uyg-2009-0213-100.mp3

A brief text (in uighur language) was published online with the following address: <http://www.rfa.org/uyghur/>



The screenshot shows a search interface with a dropdown menu displaying "07:00 - 2009/02/13". Below the dropdown are two buttons with Uighur text: "بۇ ۋاقىتتا" (At this time) and "بۇ ۋاقىتتا" (At this time). An orange arrow points to the right button.

07:00 - 2009/02/13

ناگلاش بۆكۈش

[illegible]



[illegible]



## Important Note

The following note is directed to the relevant persons with regrets:

**Gossip** can serve to be used as a form of passive aggression, as a tool to isolate and harm others. For 29 years, we heart so many empty but provocative talks about us as well as our scientific activities, originating from the *so-called* scientific circles. It is notifiable that they have no psychological effects on our programs on the World Animals. Our planned scientific studies continue without any external support or sponsorship, with private and full power, as usual.

Gossip is also explained precisely in the major religions. For example,

*In Judaism, According to Proverbs 18:8: "The words of a gossip are like choice morsels: they go down to a man's innermost parts."*

*In Christianity, Jesus also commanded, in Matthew 18, that conflict resolution among church members begin with the aggrieved party attempting to resolve their dispute with the offending party alone. Only if this did not work would the process escalate to the next step, in which other church members would become involved. In no case did Jesus authorize complaining to another church member without having confronted the offender first.*

*In Islam **considers backbiting the equivalent of eating the flesh of one's dead brother** (Hicr sûresi, 15/12). According to Muslims, backbiting harms its victims without offering them any chance of defense, just as dead people cannot defend against their flesh being eaten. Muslims are expected to treat each other like brothers, deriving from Islam's concept of brotherhood amongst its believers and non believers. Finally, the interpretation of A'râf / 179 (The Koran) by Abdalbaki Gölpınarlı is notified as follows; ...Andolsun ki biz, cinlerin ve insanların çoğunu cehennem için yarattık; onların kalpleri vardır; düşünmezler onunla; gözleri vardır, görmezler o gözlerle; kulakları vardır, duymazlar o kulaklarla. Onlar dört ayaklı hayvanlara benzerler, hatta daha da sapıktır onlar. Onlardır gaflette kalanların ta kendileri...*





## Centre for Entomological Studies Ankara

(A scientific Consortium)

(co-operation of research workers for pure-scientific, not commercial purpose)

Web Page of the Cesa: <http://www.cesa-tr.org/>

**Scientific Serials:** Priamus & Supplement (ISSN 1015-8243)<sup>3</sup>, Miscellaneous Papers (ISSN 1015-8235)<sup>4</sup>, Memoirs (ISSN-8227)<sup>5</sup>, DVD Films<sup>6</sup>, Iconographia Insectorum<sup>7</sup>, Cesa Publications on African Lepidoptera (series)<sup>8</sup>, Cesa News [online]<sup>9</sup>, Cesa Books<sup>10</sup>

**Owners / Sahipleri - Editors / Yayıncılar:** Prof. Dr. Ahmet Ömer Koçak (c/o Yüzüncü Yıl University, Turkey) - Editor Assistant: Asst. Prof. Dr. Muhabbet Kemal Koçak (c/o Yüzüncü Yıl University, Turkey).

**Editorial Board of all Scientific Serials / Bütün Bilimsel Yayınların Yayın Kurulu:** Insecta, taxonomy, nomenclature, ecology, faunistics: Prof. Dr. Ahmet Ömer Koçak (Yüzüncü Yıl Üniversitesi, Turkey), Asst. Prof. Dr. Muhabbet Kemal Koçak (Yüzüncü Yıl University, Turkey), Asst. Prof. Dr. Selma Seven (Gazi University, Turkey), General Entomology: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Paitoon Leksawasdi (Chiang Mai University, Faculty of Science, Thailand); Homoptera: Dr. Emine Demir (Turkey). Orthoptera: Dr. Piotr Naskrecki (Connecticut University, U.S.A.), Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mustafa Ünal (Abant İzzet Baysal University, Turkey), Asst. Prof. Dr. Yusuf Hüseyinoğlu (Mersin University, Turkey), Asst. Prof. Dr. Yaşar Gülmez (Gazi Osman Paşa University, Tokat). Coleoptera / Chrysomelidae: Assoc. Prof. M.S.Mohammedsaid (Malaysia). - Plant taxonomy, flora and vegetation: Prof. Dr. Lütfi Behçet, Asst. Prof. Dr. Fevzi Özgökçe, Asst. Prof. Dr. Mural Ünal (Yüzüncü Yıl University, Van, Turkey).

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

Correspondences should be addressed to: Prof. Dr. Ahmet Ömer Koçak, c/o Yüzüncü Yıl University, Fen-Edebiyat Fakültesi, Biyoloji Bölümü, Kampus, Van / Turkey. - e-mails: [cesa\\_tr@yahoo.com.tr](mailto:cesa_tr@yahoo.com.tr) - [a\\_kocak@lycos.com](mailto:a_kocak@lycos.com)

All serials are recorded regularly by the Zoological Record,  
Thomson Reuters, Enterprise House, Innovation Way, Heslington, York, YO10 5NY, United Kingdom  
[ts-emea-york.dcsadmins@thomson.com](mailto:ts-emea-york.dcsadmins@thomson.com)

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.cesa-tr.org/Pri.htm> - pdf available after corresponding

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.cesa-tr.org/Miscell.htm> - pdf available after corresponding

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.cesa-tr.org/Memoirs.htm> - pdf available after corresponding

<sup>6</sup> <http://www.cesa-tr.org/CDF.htm>

<sup>7</sup> <http://www.cesa-tr.org/Icon.htm>

<sup>8</sup> [http://www.metafro.be/Members/Cesa/internet\\_sayfas305/base\\_view](http://www.metafro.be/Members/Cesa/internet_sayfas305/base_view) - pdf available

<sup>9</sup> <http://www.cesa-tr.org/Cesanews.htm> pdf available

<sup>10</sup> <http://www.cesa-tr.org/Cesabooks.htm>